

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 14602 121808Z

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 14602

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: TESTING SOVIET CLAIMED RIGID POSITIONS

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 44

1. MOROKHOV'S STATEMENT IN OCTOBER 10 RESTRICTED MEETING
DESCRIBED FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR USSR ARISING FROM SOVIET
DOMESTIC LAW AND REGULATIONS ON WHICH THEY ASSERT THEY HAVE NO
FLEXIBILITY. IN EFFORT TO SEE IF SOVIETS POSITIONS ARE AS
RIGID AS DESCRIBED, AND, AT SAME TIME, TO KEEP THINGS
MOVING IN CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER, DELEGATION PLANS TO DO FOLLOWING:

A) IN WORKING GROUP I, OCTOBER 13, DELEGATION WILL:

(1) PROPOSE AD REFERENDUM A NUMBER OF IN-
SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES TO DRAFT TREATY TEXTS IN THE INTEREST
OF ENLARGING THE VOLUME OF AGREED LANGUAGE; AND
(2) SEEK CLARIFICATION OF SOVIET STAND ON IMPOR-
TANT DIFFERENCES.

(B) IN WORKING GROUP II, OCTOBER 13, DELEGATION WILL
CONCENTRATE ON DIFFERENCES IN DRAFT PROTOCOLS OF TWO SIDES
IN AREA OF OBSERVER RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS AND ATTEMPT TO
GET SOVIETS TO GIVE SPECIFIC TECHNICAL REASONS FOR THEIR GENERAL
CRITICISM OF US DRAFT.

(C) ALSO ON MONDAY OCTOBER 13, DELEGATION WILL HAND OVER
PROPOSED CHANGES OF WORDING AUTHORIZED TO DATE BY WASHINGTON.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 14602 121808Z

(D) DELEGATION WILL PROPOSE RESTRICTED MEETING FOR

OCTOBER 14, TO DELIVER STRONG STATEMENT ON DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
DRAFTS OF TWO SIDES WITH RESPECT TO SIX GENERAL SUBJECTS:

(1) TIES TO TTBT;
(2) VERIFICATION PROVISIONS IN PROTOCOLS;
(3) MOROKHOV'S REMARKS OCTOBER 10 ABOUT SOVIET
DOMESTIC LAW;
(4) NON-SPECIFIC SOVIET CLAIMS THAT US VERIFICATION
PROVISIONS WOULD ALLOW ACQUISITION OF UNWARRANTED INFORMATION
AND INTERFERENCE WITH PROJECTS;
(5) APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS IN THIRD COUNTRIES;
AND
(6) COOPERATION.

2. FOLLOWING RESTRICTED MEETING DELEGATION WILL ASSESS
SITUATION AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS. DEPENDING UPON NATURE OF
SOVIET RESPONSE, AND OTHER INDICATIONS OF SOVIET READINESS
OR LACK OF READINESS TO ENGAGE IN SUBSTANTIVE EFFORTS ON
ESSENTIAL PROVISIONS AT THIS TIME, IT MAY BE PRUDENT TO MAKE
EXPLICIT DETERMINATION WHETHER TO PROPOSE RECESS WHILE THEY
SORT OUT THEIR OPTIONS OR TO REMAIN IN MOSCOW, AS ALTERNATIVE
WAYS TO PRESS THEM.

STOESSEL

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